State of California California Natural Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Methodology for Flow and Salinity Estimates in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh



33rd Annual Progress Report to the State Water Resources Control Board in Accordance with Water Right Decisions 1485 and 1641

June 2012

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Foreword

This is the 33rd annual progress report of the California Department of Water Resources' San Francisco Bay-Delta Evaluation Program, which is carried out by the Delta Modeling Section. This report is submitted annually by the section to the California State Water Resources Control Board pursuant to its Water Right Decision 1485, Term 9, which is still active pursuant to its Water Right Decision 1641, Term 8.

This report documents progress in the development and enhancement of the Bay-Delta Office's Delta Modeling Section's computer models and reports the latest findings of studies conducted as part of the program. This report was compiled under the direction of Tara Smith, program manager for the Bay-Delta Evaluation Program.

Online versions of previous annual progress reports are available at: http://baydeltaoffice.water.ca.gov/modeling/deltamodeling/annualreports.cfm.

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Report Contents

For	ewor	d	iii
Pre	face .		xiii
Acr	1.1 Introduction		
Me	tric C	onversion Table	xvi
1	Moni	itoring Station Locations	1-1
	1.1	Introduction	1-1
	1.2	Procedure	1-1
	1.3	Conclusion	1-6
	Appe	ndix ArcPy Script	1-7
Figi	ure	, ,	
Figu	ıre 1-1	L Sacramento-San Joaquin Legal Delta, DSM2 Channels, and CDEC Stations	1-3
Tab	les		
Tab	le 1-1	Partial List of Stations and Station-Lists near Measured Stations	1-2
Tab	le 1-2	Station-Lists and Counts	1-4
Tab	le 1-3	·	1-4
Tab	le 1-4	·	
2	Impr	oved Geometry Interpolation in DSM2-Hydro	2-1
	2.1	Introduction	2-1
	2.2	Hydro Geometry Setup and Channel Cross Section Interpolation Methods	
	2.3	Improvement in Spatial Integration	
	2.4	Model State at the Midpoint of a Computational Reach	
	2.5	Summary of Modifications	
	2.6	References	
Figi	ures		
Figu	ıre 2-1	Computational Grid for a Fictional Channel Connecting Nodes '1' and '2'	2-1
•		2 A Map of User Input Cross Sections of Channel 445 in Suisun Marsh	
Figu	ıre 2-3	3 Virtual Cross Section Locations at Computational Points and Midpoint	2-4
Figu	ıre 2-4	1 Illustration of Height-based Cross Section Interpolation	2-4
Figu	ıre 2-5	5 Illustration of Elevation-based Cross Section Interpolation	2-5
Figu	ire 2-6	5 Illustration of a Poor Area Calculation	2-6

3 DSI	B DSM2 Version 8.1 Recalibration			
3.1	Introduction	3-1		
3.2	Hydro Recalibration Results	3-1		
3.3	EC Recalibration Results	3-16		
3.4	Summary	3-24		
3.5	References	3-24		
Figures				
_	-1 Stations for Hydro Calibration	3-3		
_	-2 Hydro Calibration, Sacramento River at Freeport			
_	-3 Hydro Calibration, Sacramento River above Delta Cross Channel			
	-4 Hydro Calibration, Sacramento River downstream of Georgiana Slough .			
Figure 3	-5 Hydro Calibration, Sacramento River at Rio Vista	3-7		
Figure 3	-6 Hydro Calibration, San Joaquin River at Jersey Point	3-8		
Figure 3	-7 Hydro Calibration, San Joaquin River at Stockton	3-9		
Figure 3	-8 Hydro Calibration, Old River at Bacon Island	3-10		
Figure 3	-9 Hydro Calibration, Old River near Byron	3-11		
Figure 3	-10 Hydro Calibration, Three Mile Slough at SJR	3-12		
Figure 3	-11 Hydro Calibration, Georgiana Slough	3-13		
Figure 3	-12 Hydro Calibration, Delta Cross Channel	3-14		
Figure 3	-13 Hydro Calibration, Grant Line Canal at Tracy Boulevard Bridge	3-15		
Figure 3	-14 Key EC Comparison Stations	3-17		
Figure 3	-15 Qual Model Performance of EC, Sacramento River at Emmaton	3-18		
Figure 3	-16 Qual Model Performance of EC, Sacramento River at Collinsville	3-19		
Figure 3	-17 Qual Model Performance of EC, San Joaquin River at Jersey Point	3-20		
Ū	-18 Qual Model Performance of EC, Old River at Bacon Island			
_	-19 Qual Model Performance of EC, Clifton Court Forebay			
Figure 3	-20 Qual Model Performance of EC, Montezuma Slough at Beldons Landing	33-23		
Table				
Table 3-	1 Recalibrated Manning's Coefficient	3-2		

4 South Delta Null Zone Study4	-1
4.1 Background 4	-1
4.2 Purpose 4	-1
4.3 Modeling Analysis Approach4	-2
4.3.1 Modeling Scenarios4	-2
4.3.2 Modeling Assumptions and Considerations4	-3
4.3.3 Simulation Periods4	-4
4.3.4 Model Results Interpretation4	-4
4.4 Results and Findings4	-5
4.4.1 Flow	-5
4.4.2 Stage4-1	10
4.5 Conclusions 4-1	18
4.6 References	18
Figures	
Figure 4-1 South Delta4	-1
Figure 4-2 Process of DSM2 Modeling Analysis	-2
Figure 4-3 Condition 1 of Assumed Null Zone Definition	-3
Figure 4-4 Condition 2 of Assumed Null Zone Definition	-3
Figure 4-5 South Delta Channels included in Null Zone Assessment (Highlighted Area)4	-4
Figure 4-6 Model Results of Null Zone Occurrence for NO_CVP_SWP_BARRIERS and NO_BARRIERS Scenario (January 1990 to December 2010)4	-6
Figure 4-7 Model Results of Null Zone Occurrence for NO_CVP_SWP_BARRIERS and HISTORICAL	
Scenario (January 1990 to December 2010)	-7
Figure 4-8 Model Results of Null Zone Occurrence for NO_CVP_SWP_BARRIERS and NO_BARRIERS Scenario for July Only (1990 to 2010)4	-8
Figure 4 9 Model Results of Null Zone Occurrence for NO_CVP_SWP_BARRIERS and HISTORICAL Scenario for July Only (1990 to 2010)	-9
Figure 4-10 Locations of Stage Assessment in South Delta4-:	10
Figure 4-11 Daily Minimum Stage Results for the Entire 21 Years (1990 to 2010)4-:	11
Figure 4-12 Daily Minimum Stage Results for July Only (1990 to 2010)4-	15
Table	
Table 4 1 Summary of Modeling Scenarios4	-3

5	Estim	nating Delta-wide Bromide Using DSM2-Simulated EC Fingerprints 5-1
	5.1	Introduction 5-1
	5.2	Background 5-2
	5.3	Directly Simulating Delta Bromide5-3
	5.4	Estimating Historical Bromide Based on Simulated EC 5-5
	5.5	Comparison of Direct Bromide Simulation and Delta-wide Regression 5-9
	5.6	Comparison of Performance of Different Methods in Estimating Bromide5-22
	5.7	Conclusions
	5.8	References5-24
Fig	ures	
Figu	ıre 5-1	Martinez Regression Used for Converting from EC to Bromide5-3
Figu	ıre 5-2	2 Sacramento River Boundary Regression Used for Converting from EC to Bromide5-4
Figu	ire 5-3	San Joaquin River Boundary Regression Used for Converting from EC to Bromide5-4
Figu	ıre 5-4	Bromide Assumed for Agricultural Drainage by Region5-5
Figu	ıre 5-5	Illustration of Change of Bromide Concentration with Change of Water Sources5-6
Figu	ıre 5-6	Grab Sample Locations and Groupings for Derivation of Regressions5-8
Figu	ıre 5-7	Comparison of Grab Sample Data and Calculated Bromide Concentration at Sacramento River at Mallard Island (four figures total)5-10
Figu	ıre 5-8	Comparison of Grab Sample Data and Calculated Bromide Concentration at Banks Pumping Plant (four figures total)5-12
Figu	ıre 5-9	Comparison of Grab Sample Data and Calculated Bromide Concentration at Jones Pumping Plant (four figures total)5-14
Figu	ıre 5-1	.0 Comparison of Grab Sample Data and Calculated Bromide Concentration in Old River at Bacon Island (four figures total)5-16
Figu	ıre 5-1	1 Comparison of Grab Sample Data and Calculated Bromide Concentration in Old River near Highway 4 Bridge (four figures total)5-18
Figu	ıre 5-1	.2 Comparison of Grab Sample Data and Calculated Bromide Concentration at Contra Costa Pumping Plant 1 (four figures total)5-20
Tak	les	
Tab	le 5-1	Methods to Determine Bromide Concentrations5-1
Tab	le 5-2	Comparison of Performance of Different Methods in Estimating Bromide5-23

6	A Co	ntinuous Surface Elevation Map for Modeling	6-1
	6.1	Introduction	6-1
	6.2	Data Sources	6-2
	6.3	Methodology Overview	6-5
	6.4	10 m Base Map	6-5
	6.	4.1 Prioritization of Core Data and Supplemental Data Sets	6-5
	6.	4.2 Filling at 10 m and Missing Values	6-6
	6.	4.3 Transitions between Data Sources	6-6
	6.	4.4 Orthogonal Levee Reinforcement	6-6
	6.5	High Resolution Model	6-7
	6.	5.1 Gaps	6-8
	6.6	Fine-coarse Transitions	6-15
	6.7	Time and Spatial Sampling	6-17
	6.8	Summary and Conclusions	6-21
	6.9	References	6-22
Fiç	gures		
Fig	ure 6-	1 Cross Section Profile near BNSF Railway Bridge	6-1
Fig	ure 6-	2 Data Sources for Version 1.0 of the 10 m DEM	6-3
Fig	ure 6-	3 Data Sources Being Added for Version 2.0 of Elevation Model	6-4
Fig	ure 6-	4 Preparation of 10 m DEM	6-5
Fig	ure 6-	5 Examples of False Numerical 'Leaks' in Levee Elevation Models	6-7
Fig	ure 6-	6 Example of Simple Gaps	6-9
Fig	ure 6-	7 Comparison of Interpolation Techniques on Simple Gap	. 6-10
Fig	ure 6-	8 Delineation of an Inhabited Island Using Bounds of a Polygon as a Hard Constraint	. 6-11
Fig	ure 6-	9 Cross Section Profiles with and without Island Enforcement	. 6-12
Fig	ure 6-	10 Complex Shallows near BNSF Railroad Bridge Crossing Middle River near Bullfrog Marina	6-13
Fig	ure 6-	11 Shallow Horseshoe Bend on Middle River North of Bullfrog Marina (top) and Close-up o	
		Southern Part of Bend where Interpolation was Compared (bottom)	
_		12 Example of Vertical Cross Sections with Supporting Data	
Fig	ure 6-	13 Example of Fine-coarse Transitions	. 6-16
Fig	ure 6-	14 Result of Stitching and Smoothing Discontinuity at 10 m	. 6-16
Fig	ure 6-	15 Evolution of Channel Bedforms over 3 Data Collections in 2010 and 2011	. 6-17
Fig	ure 6-	16 Longitudinal Profile (top) and Lateral Profile for 2 m DEM Derived from Terrain Using Different Window Sizes	. 6-19
Fig	ure 6-	17 Longitudinal Profile (top) and Lateral Profile Generated from Different Resolution DEMs	
3	-	Using Same Proportional Window Size	

7	DSIV	12-PTM Simulations of Particle Movement	7-1
	7.1	Summary	7-1
	7.2	Study Scenario Determination and Modeling Configuration	
	7.	.2.1 Hydrodynamic Boundary and Source Flows Configuration	7-1
	7.	.2.2 Operable Barrier and Gate Configuration	7-3
		.2.3 Hydrodynamic Scenario Configuration	
		.2.4 DSM2-PTM Configuration	
	7.3	Sacramento River Flow Sensitivity Test	
		.3.1 Simulation Configuration	
		.3.2 Result Summary	
		•	
	7.4	Hydrodynamic Scenario Results and Analysis	
		.4.1 Old and Middle River (OMR)	
	7.	.4.2 Flow Splits at San Joaquin River Junctions to South Delta	7-14
	7.5	PTM Scenarios Results and Analysis	7-19
	7.	.5.1 Particle Fate Comparison for PTM Standard Boundary Outputs	7-19
	7.	.5.2 HORB IN-OUT Difference of Particle Flux at Martinez	7-20
	7.	.5.3 Particle Flux Split at San Joaquin River Junctions to Southward Branch	7-24
	7.6	Conclusions	7-29
	7.7	Acknowledgments	7-29
	7.8	References	7-29
	App	endixes A-1 through D-6	7-30
Fig	ures		
Fig	ure 7-	1 Delta Boundaries Showing Flows (blue circles) and Temporary Barriers and Gates	
		(purple circles)	
_		2 Priority 3 Operation Rule	
·		3 PTM Particle Insertion Locations (purple circles)	
_		4 Stage at Martinez at Station RSAC054	
_		5 San Joaquin River Flow at Station RSAN112	
		6 OMR and its HORB IN-OUT Difference for sjr_ie Scenarios	
_		7 Export and IE Ratios and Their HORB IN-OUT Difference for sjr_omr Scenarios	
_		8 Flow Directions (red arrows) of Channels around ROLD for sjr1500_ie11 Scenario	7-16
Fig	ure 7-	9 HORB IN-OUT Difference of Martinez Particle Flux Fate at 45-day's End for sjr_ie Scenarios	7-22
Fig	ure 7-	10 HORB IN-OUT Difference of Martinez Particle Flux Fate at 45-day's End for sjr_omr	
J		Scenarios	7-23

Tables

Table 7-1 Monthly Average of San Joaquin and Sacramento River Flows in May, 1990 to 2010	7-1
Table 7-2 DSM2-HYDRO Configuration for the Delta Boundaries and Source Flows	7-3
Table 7-3 Facilities Configuration for the Delta Temporary Barriers and Important Gates	7-4
Table 7-4 Simulation Hydro Combinations of sjr_ie Scenarios and sjr_omr Scenarios	7-5
Table 7-5 PTM Particle Insertion Location Scenarios	7-5
Table 7-6 PTM Flux Output Groups and Specification	7-8
Table 7-7 HYDRO Configuration for SAC R. Sensitivity Analysis	7-10
Table 7-8 Locations Required for OMR Calculation in DSM2 Grid	7-11
Table 7-9 Hydro Conditions for sjr_ie Scenarios	7-12
Table 7-10 Hydro Conditions for sjr_omr Scenario	7-13
Table 7-11 Average Flow (cfs) Range (min, max) for SJR Junctions in sje_omr Scenarios	7-17
Table 7-12 Average Flow Variation Pattern with SJR Flow Increasing for SJR Junctions in sjr_omr Scenarios	7-17
Table 7-13 Average Flow Variation Pattern with OMR Increasing for SJR Junctions in sjr_omr Scenarios	7-18
Table 7-14 Particle Fates' Ranges (min, max) of PTM Standard Outputs at 45-days' End for sjr_omr Scenarios, Unit %	7-21
Table 7-15 Particle Fates' Variation Patterns of PTM Standard Outputs with OMR and SJR Flow for sjr_omr Scenario	
Table 7-16 HORB IN-OUT Difference of Martinez Particle Flux Fate at 45-day's End for sjr_ie Scenarios	7-22
Table 7-17 HORB IN-OUT Difference of Martinez Particle Flux Fate at 45-day's End for sjr_omr Scenarios	7-23
Table 7-18 Particle Fate Ranges (min, max) at 45-day's End at SJR Junctions for sjr_omr Scenarios, Unit %	7-26
Table 7-19 Variation Pattern of Particle Fate (45-days' end) with SJR Flow Increasing at SJR Junction for sjr_omr Scenarios	ons
Table 7-20 Variation Pattern of Particle Fate (45-days' end) with OMR Increasing at SJR Junctions	for 7-28

Preface

Chapter 1 Monitoring Station Locations

The authors compared several lists of purported accurate measurement station locations and conducted field measurements of some sites. The lists were analyzed using ESRI products and a script in ArcPython. This chapter describes and summarizes the analysis.

Chapter 2 Improved Geometry Interpolation in DSM2-Hydro

This chapter documents modifications to the DSM2 Delta modeling program that improve the model's internal representation of bathymetry under conditions typical of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The authors implemented a more accurate channel cross-sectional calculation scheme based on absolute elevation and also increased the density of geometry samples (number of quadrature points) used when calculating integral quantities such as volume.

Chapter 3 DSM2 Version 8.1 Recalibration

Modifications to the DSM2 program source code that improve channel geometry representation described in Chapter 2 of this report affects results both in DSM2-Hydro and DSM2-Qual. The model has been recalibrated by adjusting Manning's coefficient values in DSM2-Hydro. The recalibrated Hydro results (flow and stage) are very close to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) 2009 Calibration results, although there are significant changes in Manning's coefficient values. Qual was recalibrated in 2011 after changes to improve DSM2-Qual model convergence. Using the recently recalibrated Hydro, we reran the Qual module to check the impacts of the Hydro source code changes and the Hydro recalibration on EC results. The electrical conductivity results are compared with field data and also the 2009 BDCP Calibration results.

Chapter 4 South Delta Null Zone Study

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is in the process of reviewing and updating the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). The review may result in the potential amendments to the South Delta salinity objectives in the Bay-Delta Plan. Under the review process, SWRCB states that poor water circulation (null zones) contributes to bad water quality in the South Delta, and that the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP) are responsible for improving the water circulation conditions while raising water stage so that the farmers are able to divert water.

The purpose of this study is to analyze through hydrodynamic modeling whether and to what extent CVP and SWP exports and the agricultural temporary barrier actually influence the water levels (stage) and water circulation in South Delta.

Chapter 5 Estimating Delta-wide Bromide Using DSM2-Simulated EC Fingerprints

This chapter compares 6 methods to determine bromide concentrations at select locations in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (the Delta). The results of the methods are compared to observed grab sample bromide data at those Delta locations. The analysis confirms MWH's conclusion that direct simulation of bromide with DSM2 and the current version of dispersion coefficients is equivalent to estimating bromide based on DSM2-simulated electrical conductivity (EC) and applying multiple linear regressions based on simulated EC fingerprints. However, using observed EC and multiple linear regressions provides significantly better estimates of bromide. Multiple linear regressions based on

Delta regions perform nearly as well as site-specific regressions and allow for converting from EC to bromide at nearly any location in the Delta.

Chapter 6 A Continuous Surface Elevation Map for Modeling

This chapter documents the development of an elevation data set for multidimensional modeling developed under the REALM project, synthesizing LiDAR, single- and multibeam sonar soundings and surveys and integrating them with existing integrated maps that themselves were collated from multiple sources. The result is a continuous surface—terrestrial and water—in meters using the NAVD88 vertical datum. The initial release of this map was in the form of a 10 m Digital Elevation Map (DEM) for the entire Bay-Delta and parts of the coast to the Farallones, supplemented by a 2 m model of the South Delta in a region where the channel features are poorly resolved at 10 m.

Chapter 7 DSM2-PTM Simulations of Particle Movement

The National Marine Fisheries Service requested the California Department of Water Resources Modeling Support Branch perform a DSM2-PTM modeling study to investigate the impact of various factors on salmon/steelhead migration behaviors in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. Those factors include San Joaquin River flows, exports from the State Water Project and Central Valley Project, and the Head of Old River Barrier (HORB). The report documents the assumptions, model setups, and simulation results and could be used to help studies on HORB installation/operation and export adaptive management for salmonid outmigration protections.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Bay-Delta Plan 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/San Joaquin Delta Estuary

BDCP Bay Delta Conservation Plan

BNSF Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway

Br bromide

CDEC California Data Exchange Center

cfs cubic feet per second

CLFCT Clifton Court Forebay Gates
CVP Central Valley Project
DC dispersion coefficient
DCC Delta Cross Channel

Delta Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

DEM Digital Elevation Map
DSM2 Delta Simulation Model 2

DWR California Department of Water Resources

EC electrical conductivity

GIS Geographical Information System

GLCB Grant Line Canal Barrier
HORB Head of Old River Barrier
IE ratio inflow/export ratio

Marsh Suisun Marsh

MIDB Middle River Barrier

MTZSL Montezuma Salinity Control Structure

NED National Elevation Dataset

NMFS National Marine Fisheries Service

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

N-S Nash-Suttcliffe

OMR Old and Middle River
ORTB Old River Barrier at Tracy
PTM Particle Tracking Model

RPA Reasonable Prudent Alternative

SAC R. Sacramento River
SJR San Joaquin River
SWP State Water Project

SWRCB State Water Resources Control Board

TDS total dissolved solids
USBR US Bureau of Reclamation
USGS US Geological Survey
WDL Water Data Library

Metric Conversion Table

Quantity	To Convert from Metric Unit	To Customary Unit	Multiply Metric Unit By	To Convert to Metric Unit Multiply Customary Unit By
	millimeters (mm)	inches (in)	0.03937	25.4
Longth	centimeters (cm) for snow depth	inches (in)	0.3937	2.54
Length	meters (m)	feet (ft)	3.2808	0.3048
	kilometers (km)	miles (mi)	0.62139	1.6093
	square millimeters (mm ²)	square inches (in ²)	0.00155	645.16
Aron	square meters (m ²)	square feet (ft ²)	10.764	0.092903
Area	hectares (ha)	acres (ac)	2.4710	0.40469
	square kilometers (km²)	square miles (mi ²)	0.3861	2.590
	liters (L)	gallons (gal)	0.26417	3.7854
	megaliters (ML)	million gallons (10*)	0.26417	3.7854
Volume	cubic meters (m ³)	cubic feet (ft ³)	35.315	0.028317
	cubic meters (m ³)	cubic yards (yd³)	1.308	0.76455
	cubic dekameters (dam³)	acre-feet (ac-ft)	0.8107	1.2335
	cubic meters per second (m³/s)	cubic feet per second (ft ³ /s)	35.315	0.028317
	liters per minute (L/mn)	gallons per minute (gal/mn)	0.26417	3.7854
Flow	liters per day (L/day)	gallons per day (gal/day)	0.26417	3.7854
	megaliters per day (ML/day)	million gallons per day (mgd)	0.26417	3.7854
	cubic dekameters per day (dam³/day)	acre-feet per day (ac-ft/day)	0.8107	1.2335
	kilograms (kg)	pounds (lbs)	2.2046	0.45359
Mass	megagrams (Mg)	tons (short, 2,000 lb.)	1.1023	0.90718
Velocity	meters per second (m/s)	feet per second (ft/s)	3.2808	0.3048
Power	kilowatts (kW)	horsepower (hp)	1.3405	0.746
D	kilopascals (kPa)	pounds per square inch (psi)	0.14505	6.8948
Pressure	kilopascals (kPa)	feet head of water	0.32456	2.989
Specific capacity	liters per minute per meter drawdown	gallons per minute per foot drawdown	0.08052	12.419
Concentration	milligrams per liter (mg/L)	parts per million (ppm)	1.0	1.0
Electrical conductivity	microsiemens per centimeter (µS/cm)	micromhos per centimeter (µmhos/cm)	1.0	1.0
Temperature	degrees Celsius (°C)	degrees Fahrenheit (°F)	(1.8X°C)+32	0.56(°F-32)